

Activities/Use	What is allowed
<i>Authorized Non-totally Enclosed Activities (40 CFR 761.30)</i>	
Transformers	PCBs at any concentration may be used in transformers (other than railroad transformers) at any concentration, subject to conditions. PCBs may be used for purposes of servicing, including rebuilding for the remainder of their useful lives, subject to conditions.
Railroad transformers	PCBs may be used in transformers in railroad locomotives or railroad self-propelled cars only at a concentration level of <1000 ppm, and may be processed and distributed in commerce for purposes of servicing these transformers, subject to specific conditions.
Mining equipment	PCBs may be used in mining equipment only at a concentration level of <50 ppm.
Heat transfer systems	PCBs may be used in heat transfer systems only at a concentration level of <50 ppm.
Hydraulic systems	PCBs may be used in hydraulic systems only at a concentration level of <50 ppm.
Carbonless copy paper	Carbonless copy paper containing PCBs may be used in a manner other than a totally enclosed manner indefinitely.
Pigments	Processing and distribution in commerce of diarylide or phthalocyanin pigments that contain 50 ppm or greater PCB is permitted only for persons who are granted an exemption.
Electromagnets, switches, and voltage regulators	PCBs at any concentration may be used in electromagnets, switches, and voltage regulators and may be used for purposes of servicing this equipment for the remainder of their useful lives, subject to conditions.
Natural gas pipeline systems	Use and reuse of PCBs in natural gas pipeline systems is authorized at concentrations <50 ppm. PCBs are authorized for use at concentrations >50 ppm in natural gas pipeline systems not owned or operated by a seller or distributor of natural gas & PCBs are authorized for use at concentrations >50 ppm in natural gas pipeline systems owned or operated by a seller or distributor of natural gas, subject to specified conditions.
Research and Development	PCBs may be used in small quantities for R&D, in a manner other than totally enclosed indefinitely. Authorized research and development activities include, but are not limited to : the chemical analysis of PCBs; determinations of the physical properties of PCBs; studies of environmental transport processes; studies of biochemical transport processes; studies of the effects of PCBs on the environment; and studies of the health effects of PCBs. Manufacture, processing, and distribution in commerce of PCBs in small quantities for R&D is permitted with an exemption.
Scientific instruments	PCBs may be used indefinitely in scientific instruments, for example, in oscillatory flow birefringence and viscoelasticity instruments for the study of the physical properties of polymers, in a manner other than a totally enclosed manner. No person may manufacture, process, or distribute in commerce PCBs for use in scientific instruments without an exemption.

PCB Allowable Use Provisions

40 CFR 761.80, July 1998

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Capacitors	PCBs at any concentration may be used in capacitors, subject to specific conditions.
Circuit breakers, reclosers, and cable	PCBs at any concentration may be used in circuit breakers, reclosers, and cable and may be used for purposes of servicing this electrical equipment for the remainder of their useful lives, subject to specific conditions.
Microscopy immersion oil	PCBs may be used as an immersion oil in fluorescence microscopy, in a manner other than a totally enclosed manner indefinitely. Manufacture, processing, and distribution in commerce is permitted if an exemption has been granted.
Optical liquids	PCBs may be used as optical liquids in a manner other than a totally enclosed manner indefinitely. Manufacture, processing, and distribution in commerce of PCBs is permitted if an exemption has been granted.
Porous surfaces	Any person may use porous surfaces contaminated by spills of liquid PCBs at concentrations >10 mg/100 cm ² or the remainder of the useful life of the surfaces and subsurface material, subject to specific conditions.
Rectifiers	Any person may use PCBs at any concentration in rectifiers for the remainder of the useful life, and may use PCBs <50 ppm in servicing/rebuilding rectifiers.
Air compressor systems	Any person may use PCBs in air compressor systems at concentrations <50 ppm, or >50 ppm subject to conditions.
Gas or liquid transmission systems	PCBs are authorized for use in intact and non-leaking gas or liquid transmission systems at concentrations <50 ppm PCBs.
Decontaminated materials	Any person may use equipment, structures, other non-liquid or liquid materials that were contaminated with PCBs during manufacture, use, servicing, or because of spills from , or proximity to, PCBs > 50 ppm, provided the materials were decontaminated or meet specific decontamination standards.
<i>Inadvertent PCB Generation - Excluded Processes (40 CFR 761.3)</i>	
Definition	Excluded manufacturing processes include the inadvertent release of PCBs to products, air, and water. The following conditions identify instances where inadvertent PCB generation is excluded from the regulations.
Concentration limits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concentration of PCBs in products leaving a manufacturing site or imported to the U.S. have an annual average of < 25 ppm, with a 50 ppm maximum.
Detergent bars	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> PCB concentration in detergent bars from manufacturer or imported is less than 5 ppm.
Air emissions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Release of PCBs at point at which emissions are vented to ambient air < 10 ppm.

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Discharge to water	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Amount of PCBs added to water from discharge < 100 micrograms/resolvable gas chromatographic peak per liter of water discharged.
Disposal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disposal of process wastes above 50 ppm in accordance with TSCA disposal rules.
<i>Excluded PCB Products (40 CFR 761.3)</i>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Excluded PCB products are PCB materials with concentrations < 50 ppm, including but not limited to:
Process by-products	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Non-Aroclor inadvertently generated PCBs as a by-product or impurity from a chemical manufacturing process.
Historic Uses	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Products contaminated with PCBs from historic uses.
Recycled Fluids	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recycled fluids and/or equipment contaminated during use involving products described in the previous two examples.
Used Oils	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Used oils containing <50 ppm, and legally manufactured, processed, distributed in commerce, or used before 10/1/84. PCB concentration cannot be below 50 ppm due to dilution via leaks or spills of PCBs > 50 ppm. <p>Note: Products or sources of PCBs in waste oils must have been manufactured, processed, distributed in commerce, or used, pursuant to EPA regulatory authority, exemption petition, settlement agreement, or other agency programs.</p>
<i>Totally Enclosed Activities 40 CFR 761.20</i>	
The distribution in commerce of the intact, non-leaking electrical equipment listed below constitute "totally enclosed activities".	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> transformers (including transformers used in railway locomotives and self-propelled cars)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> switches (including sectionalizers and motor starters)
	non-leaking PCB capacitors